



MAKAH TRIBE

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The Makah Tribe is an equal opportunity employer.



MAKAH FISHERIES MANAGEMENT – HABITAT DIVISION

Senator Jim Hargrove
P.O. Box 40424
Olympia, WA 98504

April 22, 2013

Re: Capital Budget Support – Puget Sound Acquisition & Restoration (PSAR)

Dear Sen. Hargrove,

The Makah Tribe supports the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR) Capital Budget Request. Salmon are a key component of the culture of the Makah Tribe and we want to ensure that the salmon are here for future generations. Our salmon stocks are endangered or greatly diminished from their historic abundance. We work together with citizens, non-profit groups, municipal, county and other tribal governments to advance salmon restoration on the North Olympic Peninsula. Restoration and protection of salmon habitat is a key component of restoring the salmon runs to their historic abundance. We have accomplished much of this work through cooperative projects funded by the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR) funds.

Since 2007, PSAR funds have been instrumental in advancing regional recovery actions including: working to recover the Lower Dungeness River floodplain, wood and culvert replacement throughout Salt Creek, creating log jams in the Elwha to maximize restoration following dam removal, recovery of the Morse Creek floodplain, and removal of undersized culverts in Washington Harbor. Not only do the PSAR dollars assist in restoration, but they also create jobs for a rural area where unemployment exceeds the Federal and State averages. PSAR funding supports jobs for construction crews, heavy equipment operators, engineers, biologists, planners, surveyors, etc are essential to supporting Clallam County economy.

Restored ecosystems also provide benefits in terms of natural processes that reduce flooding and improve water quality. This PSAR proposal, in tandem with the Coordinated Investment for Puget Sound Floodplains; very much advances the restoration of Puget Sound area waters.

Thank you for your efforts and your strong consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

Russ Svec, Director
Makah Fisheries Management, Makah Tribe